

THE WORD OF FHITH

a new creation

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. II Cor. 5:17

The margin of a good reference Bible reads: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation.

Believers, Christians, children of God, I want to talk about you for a little while. I want you to notice some facts about you.

1. The Believer is a Child of God

That is not true of everyone in this world. We hear a lot about "The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man." However, Jesus said once to some very religious people, in fact the most religious people of the day, the Pharisees, "Ye are of your father the devil..." (John 8:44).

It is true that God is the Creator of all mankind, but man must be born again to become a child of God.

I am glad that I am a new creature. I was only 15 but I will tell you. I was there when it happened. Something happened on the inside of me and it felt like a heavy load weighing at least two tons rolled off my chest.

Not only did something seem to leave and go away from me, but something came into me; inside me. I was not the same person I had been before. There was a change inside me.

Thank God, we are new creations! Our spirits have been

recreated—not our bodies. We have the same body we have always had, but there is a man who lives on the inside of this body. Paul calls him the "inner man". He calls the body the "outward man". He said, "...but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day."

In First Peter 3:4 Peter calls this inner man, "...the hidden man of the heart..." He is hidden to the physical eye.

No person can see you. They may think they see you but they are only looking at the house you live in. They don't really see you. You are on the inside looking out through the windows. They haven't seen you—they don't even know what you look like.

As well as you may know someone, you have never seen him. You only see the house he lives in. When that house in which he lives is decayed, the real man still lives; the real man will never die. Jesus said about Lazarus, "...the beggar died, and (he) was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom..." (Luke 16:22).

It is this inward man who has become a new man in Christ-a new creature-a new creation. He has come into the family of God. He is a child of God. He is in perfect union with the Master.

2. You are One with the Master

The Believer and Jesus are one. God's Word declares, "But he that is joined unto the Lord

by Kenneth Hagin

is one spirit" (I Cor. 6:17).

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches." As you look at a tree, you don't think of the branches as being separate from the rest of the tree. When you look at it you see it as one. You see it as a unity. We are the same with Christ. We are one with Him. Our spirits are one with Him. Jesus is the Head, we are the body.

3. All things are possible to you.

If I quoted the scriptures (Matt. 19:26; Mark 10:27) which say, "...with God all things are possible" everyone would readily agree. However, the same Bible, the same New Testament that says, "all things are possible with God," also says, "...all things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23).

Is one of these verses as equally true as the other? Could one of them be a statement of fact and the other a misconception or falsehood? No sir! They are both statements of fact!

All things are possible to him that believeth! It helps me as I drive down the road to say that aloud. It helps me if I amfacing a seemingly impossible situation to say aloud to myself, "All things are possible to him that believeth—and I believe."

One translation reads, "All things are possible to a believing one." I quote that aloud and then add, "I am a believing one."

4. The Greater One is in you.

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

I John 4:4

This is true concerning you. You may not be taking advantage of it, but it is still true. It is yours.

"Ye are of God..." That is another way of saying you are born of God. John is saying the same thing Paul said in II Corinthians 5:17 that if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. John is telling us that we are born of God, that we have been born again, that our spirits have been recreated, that we are of God.

Sadly, many people really do not know that they have been born of God and have received eternal life. They think eternal life is something they are going to have when they get to heaven.

Many Believers simply think they have received forgiveness of sins.

If we have been taught only that our sins are forgiven and that we have been justified and will remain justified only if we walk carefully before God-and have never been taught that the nature and the substance of God is in our spirits, that we are actually a new self, a new creation--THEN sin and Satan will continue to reign over us.

But, when we know that the man on the inside, the real self, the real man, has been born again and is a new self in Christ Jesus--THEN we will rule and reign over Satan.

"...and have over come them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." He that is in the world is the god of this world, Satan. But, thank God, greater is He that is in us than the god of this world. Greater is He who is in us than Satan. He is greater than demons. than evil spirits. He is greater than sickness greater than disease. And lives in me! He lives in you! He that

is in us is greater than any force we may come against.

John was writing to bornagain Spirit-filled Believers. I maintain that every bornagain Spirit-filled Believer has within them, ready, on-tap for use, all of the power and all of anything else they will ever need to put them over. We are thoroughly prepared for any emergency that may come because the Greater One is in us.

...for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. -II Cor. 6:16

How many of us are conscious of the fact that God is dwelling in us? It sounds far-fetched. But what does this scripture mean if it does not mean what it says? "...ye are the temple of the living God..."

"Greater is He that is in you..." He--a personality--not just an influence or an impersonal being. Jesus said, "...I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever" (John 14:16). God the Father, in the Person and Power of the Holy Ghost indwells us! He lives in us!

It is time for the Church to become "God-inside" minded. The Church has been weakness-minded, sickness-minded, inferiority-complex-minded, trouble-and poverty-minded.

Do you realize what we have done? We have been so weakness and sickness and inferiority-complex and trouble and poverty minded that that is all we have minded! That is all we have talked about and thought about.

Therefore, a very serious condition of doubt and unbelief and spiritual failure has been created in the Church and in the Believer. We, as a Church, have operated more or less on a psychology of unbelief which has robbed us of vibrant Christian faith and living.

It has robbed us of the abundant life that Jesus intended we should have. He said, "...I am

come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

When we know that the Life-Giver indwells us-that the Author of all life everywhere has condescended in the Person of His Son and through the power of the Holy Ghost, to come down and live in us-then our very beings shall radiate life--Life!

So we must become not deathminded, but life-minded.

...Not poverty-minded, but plenty-minded. He is a God of plenty.

...Not sickness-minded, but health-minded. For He said, "I am the Lord that healeth thee."

...Not trouble-minded, but spiritual and free-minded. For He said, "...I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him..." (Psalm 91:15). God did not promise that we would not have any trouble, but He promised to be with us and to deliver us. Let us become deliverance-minded rather than trouble-minded.

Instead of being weakness-minded, let's become power-minded. The Power House, the Holy Ghost, the Source of all power, indwells us and there is the potential of all power within us.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.
-Philippians 2:13

Another translation reads, "For it is God who is at work within you..." I like to put that together with I John 4:4, "...Greater is he that is in you..." He is in me! What is He doing in me? He is at work there. What is He working at? Both to will and to do of His own good pleasure. What is His own good pleasure? That I have everything the Word of

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God says I can have. That I do everything God's Word says I can do. He is enabling me!

He is in there and my spirit rejoices. My heart is glad of the fact that I can turn Him loose in me. I can let Him have right-ofway in me. I can put Him to work even to a greater degree in my life. How can I do it? First, by believing in my heart that He is in there and that the Word of God is true. And then by boldly confessing with my mouth for I will not enjoy the reality of what the Word states is mine or what I believe until I confess it with my mouth. The Bible teaches, ...with the heart man believeth ...and with the mouth confession is made unto...." My confession is that He is in me--that He is at work within me--and that He works through me.

First, He comes and recreates us, making us Hisown, and He imparts unto our spirits eternal life--His Life--His Nature--His Substance.

After I am recreated and born again, I have the right to invite the Holy Ghost to come in and

live in me. (Acts 8:14-17; Acts 19:1-6)

What, know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own.

-I Cor. 6:19

Our bodies have become the temple of God. God indwells us. Then He ministers through us to the world. He ministers through us to the Church. He ministers through the words we speak. He ministers through us as we lay our hands on the sick. "Greater is He that is in you

"Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world." Grasp that today as never before. You are of God. You are born from above. The same mighty Spirit that raised the body of Jesus Christ from death, dwells in you. Then can't you see why he said, "All things are possible to him that believeth"? It is because the God with whom all things are possible lives within us!

How limitless becomes our ministry when we realize the integrity of the Word--when we know that we have what God says!

ALL FAITHS CRUSADES

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Tulsa, Oklahoma will be the site of a Faith Seminar & Indoor Camp Meeting July 22 through July 29 at Sheridan Assembly Christian Center.

A number of guest speakers will be ministering along with Brother Hagin at three services daily. Those already confirmed are Roy Hicks and Jack Carter. Others will be confirming later.

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San Francisco, Calif.	KFAX	1100	2:30 PM	Guymon, Okla.	KFYN	1210	1:30 PM
Arvada, Colo.	KQXI	1550	11:45 AM	Okla, City, Okla.	KJAK	100.5	8:30 AM
Caldwell, Idaho	KBGN	910	10:30 AM	Pryor, Okla.	KKMA-FM	104.5	5 :4 5 PM
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St. Paul, Minn.	KNOF-FM	95,3	12 NOON	Corpus Christi, Tx.	KCTA	1030	5:45 PM
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